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FLASHBACK

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FAYETTEVILLE, ARKANSAS

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Membership in this Society is open to anyone interested in the collection and preservation of Washington County history.

Dues are payable on a calendar basis, and are $6.00 annually. Single numbers of the **Flashback** (back or current issues) are $2.00 each.

Outside back cover illustration is an original sketch of a Washington County scene, the fifth of a series by Helen Finger Leflar that **Flashback** *will be priviledged to include in succeeding issues.*

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GENEALOGY TABLES

In 1954 our Society asked members interested in Family History to contribute their ancestor charts for our files. We acquired over 200 charts, most of which are in a large, cumbersome ledger. We are copying the information on these (as well as from other miscellaneous charts) in the table form used by *THE AMERICAN GENEALOGIST* and other publications, including our neighbor *THE BACKTRACKER*. We are also setting up a card cross-index of all surnames. We hope this will be a help to researchers, and invite members to use the tables and cross-index. The original charts will remain on file.

We plan to share these tables, a few at a time, with our readers. Whenever our card-index reveals a connection, we will try to publish both tables in the same issue. Due to space limitations, we will rarely use more than five or six generations.

If anyone who submitted a chart does **not** wish the information published, please let us know.

We have been merely copying charts: WCHS has not corrected, updated, nor verified the compiler's information. Many of the charts are a full quarter of a century old and undoubtedly have been developed further. Members who have submitted charts are encouraged to correct and add new information. New members who are interested in Family History are encouraged to submit their ancestor charts.

The table follows the same numbering system as the charts but runs vertically, and thus allows space for information on additional marriages, brothers and sisters, family tradition, etc. The subject of the table is #1. All other odd numbers denote females; even numbers denote males. To find the father of any person, male or female, double that person's number. To find the mother, add one (1) to the father's number.

—I (first generation)
1. (subject)

—II (second generation)
2. (father of #1)
3. (mother of #1)

—III (third generation)
4. (father of #2)
5. (mother of #2)
6. (father of #3)
7. (mother of #3)

—IV (fourth generation)
8. (father of #4)
9. (mother of #4)
10. (father of #5)
11. (mother of #5)

If there is no information about a particular ancestor, the number is skipped.

Punctuation has been kept to a minimum. Zip code abbreviations are used for states. Place of birth, death, etc., follows date, if given.

12. (father of #6)
13. (mother of #6)
14. (father of #7)
15. (mother of #7)

—V

16. (father of #8)
17. (mother of #8)
18. (father of #9)
19. (mother of #9)
etc.

Common abbreviations used are:

b	born	m	married
d	died	m (1)	1st marriage
bur	buried	m (2)	2nd marriage
ca	circa		

We hope the chart of the Wilson family genealogical information on the facing page will show the difficulty of reproducing charts in legible form in *Flashback*. In contrast, the Wilson table (below) presents as much or more than the information available on the chart. For example, other children listed under #17 (children of Samuel Wilson & Mary Ingram) enabled us to connect this family to the family of someone doing research. It was because the information on brothers and sisters was on the table that we were able to make the connection. We could not have helped the researcher with only a conventional ancestor chart.

— Kay Blumfield
Corresponding Secretary

Nan Lawler
Office Secretary

WILSON FAMILY TABLE

Compiled by Janet Wilson Shreve

WILSON
(line III)

—I

I. Janie Belle Wilson, b 14 June 1902 Indian Territory (OK), m 3 Sept 1919 Chelsea OK to Ralph W. Shreve (he b Aug 1895 Farmington AR), d 1973 Washington Co. AR. Enrolled Cherokee Indian #12917 of Forman family.

—II

2. Claude Wilson, b 16 Mar 1872 Farmington AR, m 15 Feb 1898 Little Kansas, Indian Terr. (OK) at home of Felix Nelson Witt by Rev. Sullivan.
3. Nancy Catherine Witt, b 14 Mar 1873 Stilwell, Indian Terr. (OK).

(cont. on p. 4)

Ancestor Chart

Name of Compiler: Janet Wilson Shreve
Address:
City, State: (WCHS has not corrected,
Date: updated, nor verified
compiler's information)

Person No. 1 on this chart is the same person as No. ____ on chart No. ____.

Chart No. ____

b. Date of Birth
p.b. Place of Birth
m. Date of Marriage
d. Date of Death
p.d. Place of Death

1 Janie Belle Wilson
b. 14 June 1902
p.b. Indian Terr.
m. 3 Sept 1919, Chelsea OK
d. 1973
p.d. Washington Co. AR. Enrolled Cherokee Indian #12917, Forman Fam.

2 Claude Wilson (Father of No. 1)
b. 16 Mar 1872
p.b. Farmington AR
m. 15 Feb 1898 Indian Terr.
d.
p.d.

3 Nancy Catherine Witt (Mother of No. 1)
b. 14 Mar 1873
p.b. Stilwell, Indian Terr.
d.
p.d.

4 John Phagan Wilson (Father of No. 2)
b. 24 Oct 1832
p.b. Farmington AR
m. (1)23 Mar 1870, m(2) 18
d. 18(21?)Mar 1918 Sept 1878
p.d. Farmington AR to ...

5 Eliza Francis Bishop (Mother of No. 2)
b. 4 Dec 1848
p.b. KY
d. 1 Apr 1877
p.d. Farmington AR

6 Felix Nelson Witt (Father of No. 3)
b. 7 May 1839
p.b. Monroe Co. TN (reared by
m. Mar 1864 uncle Hezekiah
d. 5 Apr 1933 Witt, bro to
p.d. Westville OK #13)
bur Vinita OK

7 Isabel Jane Ghormely (Mother of No. 3)
b. 21 Feb 1846
p.b. Monroe Co. TN
d. Mar 1918
p.d. Vinita OK, bur Vinita

Ralph W. Shreve (Spouse of No. 1)
b. Aug 1895
p.b. Farmington AR
d.
p.d.

8 William Ingram Wilson (Father of No. 4)
b. 13 Jan 1803
p.b. Hawkins Co. TN
m. 16 Jan 1827 Hawkins Co. TN
d. 11 Jan 1876
p.d. Washington Co. AR near Farmington, bur Mt. Comfort

9 Margaret Starnes (Stames?) (Mother of No. 4)
b. 23 Jan 1797
p.b. Prob. Hawkins Co. TN
d. 15 Sept 1880
p.d. north Farmington AR, bur Mt. Comfort Cem, no marker

10 James Henry Bishop (Father of No. 5)
b. 14 Feb 1821
p.b. KY
m. 1842
d. 26 Sept 1877
p.d. near Beebe AR

11 Martha Beulah Howard (Mother of No. 5)
b. 1819
p.b. KY
d. May 1896
p.d. Beebe AR

12 Isaac Tipton (Father of No. 6)
b. 1814
p.b. Carter Co. TN
m. ca 1833
d. 1884
p.d. Beechwood TN

13 Nancy Elizabeth Witt (Mother of No. 6)
b.
p.b. 2 sons: Gilbert
d. Wilkenson & Felix
p.d. Nelson

14 William Covington Ghormley (Father of No. 7)
b. 25 Mar 1817
p.b. Blount Co. TN
m. 6 May 1845 Asheville NC
d. 10 Sept 1896
p.d. Watts OK

15 Elizabeth Taylor (Mother of No. 7)
b. 23 Mar 1824
p.b. Asheville NC
d. 25 Oct 1863
p.d. near Paris TX

16 Samuel Wilson (Father of No. 8, Cont. on chart No. ____)
b. 1775 Hawkins Co. TN
m. 1795
d. 1853 Farmington AR

17 Mary Elizabeth Ingram (Mother of No. 8, Cont. on chart No. ____)
b. 1779 Hawkins Co. TN
d. 1859-60 Washington Co. AR

18 John Starnes (Father of No. 9, Cont. on chart No. ____)
b. 1770(1770-80)
m.
d. 9 Dec 1859

19 Jane Adams (Mother of No. 9, Cont. on chart No. ____)
b.
d.

20 (Father of No. 10, Cont. on chart No. ____)
b.
m.
d.

21 (Mother of No. 10, Cont. on chart No. ____)
b.
d.

22 (Father of No. 11, Cont. on chart No. ____)
b.
m.
d.

23 (Mother of No. 11, Cont. on chart No. ____)
b.
d.

24 Abraham Tipton (Father of No. 12, Cont. on chart No. ____)
b. 1780-82 VA
m. 1814 Wash. Co. NC (or
d. 1830(?) Carter Co. TN)

25 Mary Boering (Boring?) (Mother of No. 12, Cont. on chart No. ____)
b. 1800 (census)
d. m(1)to Tipton, m(2)to Mark Morgan

26 Burgess Witt (Rev. War) (Father of No. 13, Cont. on chart No. ____)
b. 1765
m. 28 Sept 1793 Monroe Co. TN
d. 17 Dec 1843 Ironburg TN

27 Mary Mayo (Mother of No. 13, Cont. on chart No. ____)
b. 1759
d. Trad. d age 104

28 Michael Orlando Ghormley (Father of No. 14, Cont. on chart No. ____)
b. 16 Mar 1794 Blount Co. TN
m. 1812 (War of 1812)
d. 17 Dec 1878 near Evansville

29 Melinda Vaught AR (Mother of No. 14, Cont. on chart No. ____)
b. 24 Apr 1824
d. 8 Oct 1860

30 Andrew Taylor (Father of No. 15, Cont. on chart No. ____)
b.
m.
d.

31 Jane (Jennie) Bigby (Mother of No. 15, Cont. on chart No. ____)
b. 1804
d. 27 Feb 1875 Stilwell, Indian Terr.

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—III

4. John Phagan Wilson, b 24 Oct 1832 Farmington AR ("Hand in CaKy"? "Hardin Co. KY"? written above birthplace — illegible); m (1) 23 Mar 1870 to Eliza Francis Bishop, m (2) 18 Sept 1878 to Mrs. Laura Oat Chung (? illegible), m (3) 13 Dec 1890 to Dora May Roberts; d 18 (or 21) Mar 1918 Farmington AR.
5. Eliza Francis Bishop, b 4 Dec 1848 KY, d 1 Apr 1877 Farmington AR.
6. Felix Nelson Witt, b 7 May 1839 Monroe Co. TN (reared by an uncle Hezekiah Witt, bro (?) of Nancy (#13), m Mar 1864, d 5 Apr 1933 Westville OK at home of his dau Mrs. Mary Whelchel, bur Vinita OK.
7. Isabel Jane Ghormley, b 21 Feb 1846 Monroe Co. TN, d Mar 1918 Vinita OK at home of a dau Mrs. Rachel Gofort (? illegible), bur Vinita OK.

—IV

8. William Ingram Wilson, b 13 Jan 1803 Hawkins Co. TN, m 16 Jan 1827 Hawkins Co. TN, d 11 Jan 1876 Washington Co. AR near Farmington, bur Mt. Comfort, no marker.
9. Margaret Starnes (or Stames?), b 23 Jan 1797 prob. Hawkins Co. TN, d 15 Sept 1880 north Farmington AR, bur Mt. Comfort, no marker.
10. James Henry Bishop, b 14 Feb 1821 KY, m 1842, d 26 Sept 1877 near Beebe AR.
11. Martha Beulah Howard, b 1819 KY, d May 1896 Beebe AR. "Stony".
12. Isaac Tipton, b 1814 Carter Co. TN, m ca 1833, d 1884 Beechwood TN.
13. Nancy Elizabeth Witt.

    2 sons: Gilbert Wilkenson & Felix Nelson.
14. William Covington Ghormley, b 25 Mar 1817 Blount Co. TN, m 6 May 1845 Asheville NC, d 10 Sept 1896 Watts OK.
15. Elizabeth Taylor, b 23 Mar 1824 Asheville NC, d 25 Oct 1863 near Paris TX.

—V

16. Samuel Wilson, b 1775 Hawkins Co. TN, m 1795, d 28 May 1853 Farmington AR.
17. Mary Elizabeth Ingram, b 1779 Hawkins Co. TN, d 1859-60 near Farmington AR (also "Washington Co. AR")

    Samuel Wilson & Mary Ingram had 13 children: Keziah (b ca 1795, m to David Gillenwaters), Eleanor (b ca 1797, m to Absalom

(cont. on page 26)

CONDITIONS OF SLAVERY IN WASHINGTON COUNTY

by James Doolin

Shortly after the 1828 treaty between the United States and the Cherokees, by which Arkansas gained its present size and shape, settlers were arriving in northwest Arkansas and Washington County. Farmers from Tennessee, Kentucky, and the newly formed Indian territories were attracted by the fertile valleys of the Illinois and White rivers and the abundance of timber, wild game, and other natural resources. Merchants saw opportunities in western areas accessible to Indian land.

Almost among the first settlers were slaveholders. By 1829, when the first census was taken, there were more than 20 slaveholders owning some 84 slaves.[1] From these rather humble beginnings slavery grew into one of Washington County's foremost institutions encompassing more than 300 owners and 1,486 slaves in 1860; fully ten percent of the population.[2]

While such growth might have been deemed moderate in other southern frontier areas, in Washington County it was, at the least, surprising. Washington County was a highlands area distant from the slave trading centers and southern transportation routes. It was a land of small farms with a high degree of agricultural diversification and considerable northern sentiment. In Washington County, slavery was out of its natural habitat.There were no large cotton plantations, no fields of sugar cane or rice patties, no precious ores to be mined.

What effect did these factors have on the individual slave in Washington County? He, not surprisingly, worked under better conditions, was better fed, of better health, and probably treated in a more humane and dignified manner than his southern counterparts.

While much the same might be said for conditions in other northwest Arkansas counties, these counties never approached Washington County in terms of the numbers and growth of the slave population.[3] However, the question of how the factors influencing slavery in Washington County provided for better conditions is one that relates to all of northwest Arkansas and perhaps large areas of the border south as well.

SLAVE WORK

As it was for slaves everywhere, agriculture was the work of the majority of Washington County's slaves. However, in the aspects of size and diversity Washington County agriculture differed considerably from that of southern Arkansas and the South as a whole.

Slaveholdings were generally small, averaging 4.2 slaves per owner in 1840 and 1850, and 4.6 in 1860.[4] The following graphs provide a breakdown of slaveholdings in Washington County in 1860 and a comparison of

those holdings with other Arkansas counties, the state, and 11 southern states.

AVERAGE NO. OF SLAVES PER OWNER[5]

	Wash.	Union	Chicot	State	11 Southern States[6]
1850	4.2	9.0	27.0	7.9	11.4
1860	4.6	10.6	33.3	9.6	N.A.

Union County is located in south central Arkansas and is a cotton area of some agricultural diversification.[7] Chicot is located in southeast Arkansas and is a cotton and rice growing area.[8]

WASHINGTON COUNTY IN 1860[9]

# of slaves	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10-15	15-20	30-40	40-50
# of owners	73	40	36	33	26	16	19	10	11	22	11	1	1

Many advantages accrued to slaves of smaller holdings. First, there was a lessened chance of class antagonism because among many small holdings domestic slaves and field slaves were one in the same.[10] The diet of slaves on these holdings was usually comparable to the masters, being prepared many times by the same cook.[11] Perhaps the most disliked character in the South, the overseer, was absent from small holdings. On many small farms where masters worked the field alongside slaves, hours were fewer and work less strenuous.[12] The value of a single slave was much greater in proportion to the value of the estate on a number of small holdings, and therefore the health and and safety of the slave were of greater importance.

There existed some larger slaveholdings in Washington County but very few of these even rated plantation size. In 1840 there were only two owners of more than 25 slaves and in 1850 only three.[13] Mark Bean and Richard Bean led the county in 1850 with 34 slaves apiece and much evidence suggests that a number of these were engaged in urban and industrial pursuits.[14]

Slaves on all farms benefited from the food producing nature of Washington County agriculture. The leading products of 1850 were corn, oats, wheat, and potatoes (sweet and Irish) with 557,757 bushels, 137,166 bushels, 35,727 bushels, and 34,472 bushels respectively. Large amounts of butter, cheese, wool, molasses, and honey were produced as well.[15] The same items top the 1860 census with the addition of tobacco and some cotton for local use.[16]

The production of corn, grasses, and dairy products was a far less debilitating type of work for slaves than the production of cotton. The planting, care, and harvesting of a cotton crop required many man hours spent bending and stooping in the hot sun. Furthermore, slaves could raise much more cotton than they could pick.[17] Corn, oats, and wheat required much less of the individual type care given to cotton and were infinitely easier to harvest.

Few slaves would not have given up their hoes for the easier domestic and urban pursuits. Such slaves were for the most part better clothed, better housed, and fed at least as well as their agricultural counterparts.

Although the precise statistics are not available, Washington County probably led the state in percentage of slaves engaged in non-agricultural types of work.[18] The city of Fayetteville listed 294 slaves out of a total population of 967 in 1860; over twenty five percent and the state's leading figure.[19]

By the mid 1850's Fayetteville had developed into the commercial center of northwest Arkansas. As early as 1854 there were, within the city limits, six dry goods stores, a cabinet shop (hardware and lumber), a carding factory (wool), a cotton gin, a hotel, a holstery (restaurant), three schools, several taverns, and a number of plantation style homes.[20]

The exact extent to which slaves were involved in these enterprises is unsure but it is reasonable to assume that many of them used and maintained slaves. Large homes employed slaves as cooks, maids, and butlers. W. S. Campbell reports that slaves were used as servants in a local tavern.[21] Fayetteville's most important merchants, the Wallace brothers, were slaveholders.[22] Numerous merchant enterprises at Cincinnati and Cane Hill probably utilized slaves as well.

The practice of giving domestic slaves to newlywed children was apparently widespread. Numerous instances of such gifts are reported in the Washington County Miscellaneous Records as well as by ex-slaves themselves.[23]

SLAVE DIET AND SLAVE HEALTH

Better working conditions was not the only factor affecting the physical and psychological health of slaves. Diet and climate were equally important and in these Washington County slaves had many advantages over other southern slaves.

The nature of agriculture in Washington County contributed profoundly to the quality of the slaves diet. As a food producer, Washington County had an abundance of cheap agricultural foodstuffs. Diversity in types of food provided a more varied and balanced diet. And, by chance, Washington County specialized in the very products that were the basis of slave food throughout the South.

The 3 M's of slavery were meat, meal, and molasses; all produced in large amounts locally. Of these, molasses may have been the most important as a source of minerals, nutrition, and flavor. Washington County led the state in the production of molasses with over 10,000 gallons in 1860[24] (and the state led the lower South).[25] The county also led the state in the production of corn (meal) with 557,757 bushels in 1850 and ranked high in numbers of hogs and value of livestock.[26]

Slaves could also draw on large surpluses of butter and cheese (105,961 pounds in 1850), sweet and Irish potatoes, orchard products, and honey. Natural resources were plentiful. Springs of mineral rich water, wild game,

fish, fowl, berries, and nuts could all be found in northwest Arkansas.

O.W. Taylor has suggested that slaves on small holdings may have eaten more vegetables than those on large plantations.[27] This idea is particularly plausible in Washington County where vegetable gardens were numerous and fertile.

The accounts of former Washington County slaves confirm the existance of a superior diet. Aunt Adeline, a domestic slave in Fayetteville, reported, 'I can remember the days of slavery as happy ones. We always had an abundance of food. Old Aunt Martha cooked and there was always plenty prepared for all the white folks as well as the colored folk.'[28] 'Dem was good times fo de war. Yes'm good times - plenty to eat. Good times,' was the opinion of Doc Flowers of Barren Forks.[29]

Adeline Blakely Hudgens, "Aunt Adeline", at age 93, June, 1943, Fayetteville.

Climate as well as diet was conducive to slave health in Washington County. With a generally shorter growing season slaves usually had more leisure time. In its northern position, the county was less affected by the tropical fevers typhoid and malaria, which, along with cholera were the leading causes of slave deaths in southern Arkansas and the lower south.[30]

The graph at the top of page 30, taken from the morbidity census of 1850 and 1860, illustrates the lower death rate of Washington County slaves as compared with two southern Arkansas counties and the state as a whole.[31]

How much of Washington County's slave health is attributable to agricultural diversification and how much is the function of climate is impossible to ascertain. However the differences between Union County (some diversification) and Chicot County (little diversification) indicate that agricultural diversification might have played a large part.

(cont. on page 30)

QUERIES

WHEAT, JACKSON - William Jackson and Sarah Elizabeth Wheat married in Madison or Washington Co., Ark, ca. 1833. When and where? Seven children were born in Arkansas: Martha A., Josiah A., James P., William A., Cynthia C., Robert M (N). Children born in Texas were: Mary Elizabeth, Samuel, Lydia Jane, America, George, and John. The Jacksons moved to Texas ca 1849. I will appreciate any help and will share information. Sarah E. Wheat is possibly the daughter of Samuel and Cynthia Wheat. Contact: Marguerite G. Badgett, 109 Timberside Dr., Conroe, TX 77304.

MAYBERRY - I am doing research on the David and Nancy Mayberry family. I need to know who were the descendents of their son Abraham and his wife Emma Goddard Mayberry. Contact: Mrs. Burlene Hilton, Box G., Lincoln, Ark. 72744.

CRAWFORD (CROFFORD) - I am trying to determine who was the father of Thompson Crawford (Crofford) who was born in South Carolina ca 1825. He was in Osage Co., Mo. on 1850 and 1860 census. He married Nancy Breeden 11 June 1846. They are on Washington Co., Ark. 1880 census. Contact: Mrs. John Catlett, 2061 S. National, Springfield, Mo. 65804.

GILLILAND - I am looking for information on Mrs. M.E. Gilliland (Maude). She was born in Feb., 1851 and first married William Gilliland in 1868. They had eight children. Her second marriage was to William Sidney Privett (my great grand-father) Aug. 11, 1887. They had four children: Lula, b 1888; Frank, b 1890; Lauena b 1891; and Arnold b 1895. Contact: Mrs. Bob Blodgett, 324 East 8th St., Russell, Kan. 67665.

GREEN - I am seeking information on the residence of Matthew Green and his wife Belle between 1885 and 1890. They came from Crawford Co., Kan. ca 1894 and lived in or near Lincoln, Ark. at a place called Bellview in 1900 or 1901. Contact: Golda Brown Perryman, 544 S. 39th W. Ave., Tulsa, Okla.

MARRS, GREEN, SMALLEY, SOUTHWORTH - RE: Isaac & Cathering Marrs - married Kentucky, about 1799 (they were cousins), came to Arkansas about 1817. Settled: Lovely's Purchase, Prairie Grove-Canehill area. Parents of: John, 1803; Andrew Jackson, 1804; Hugh, 1805; William, 1806; Jane, 1808, Catherine, 1810; Franklin, 1812 (all born in Ky.); James, 1821; Alex, 1824; Rosanna, 1826; Eliz., 1828; Andrew Buchanan, 1830 (All born in Ark.). Isaac, son of William of Ky.; Grandson of John Marr of VA. Catherine, daughter of Hugh of Ky., granddaughter of John Marr of VA. Andrew Jackson, 1804, g.g.g. Grandfather to Mrs. Connie Lawson. Information on other N.W. Arkansas family origins: Robert F. Green, wife Isabel Wilkes, lived north of Huntsville, AR.; Lydia

Smith, husband unknown, lived or born nr. Ft. Smith, AR.; Jackson Wesley Smalley, wife Lucy Southworth, lived north of Mulberry, AR. Contact: Connie Lawson, 223 Dryden Dr., Vallejo, CA 94590.

EDMONDSON, JONES - I am looking for information on the Duncan Edmondson-Mary Jones marriage and family. They lived in Washington Co. Ark. Where were they from? What were the dates of their birth, marriage, and death? Their children were: Allie, Laura Belle (1881-1960), John Idy, Ike. Contact: Connie L.Hayes, Rt. 2, Box 103, Holt, Mo. 64048.

YELL - Any information on the Yell family tree would be appreciated. Contact: Mr. Dwight Lynn Alford, Rt. 2, Box 55, Morrison, TN 37357.

HAWKINS, BANKS - Any information would be appreciated on John B. Hawkins (b ca 1833, Williamson Co., Il. d ca 1886) and his wife Charlotte M. Banks (b ca 1836, Mo., d ca 1912, Okla.). Their children were: Rosa Ann (b 1863, Mo.); Robert C. (b 1866, Kans.); Allis (b 1868, Mo.); Matthew B. (b Dec., 1872, White River, Ark.); John Harry (b 1874, Ark.); and Thomas H. (b 9 Feb 1878, White River, Ark.). Contact: Patsy A. Rall, 27034 125th S.E., Kent, WA 98031.

CHANDLER, PLAYLE, AND BLACKETER - Any information on these families will be appreciated. Contact: Mrs. Lloyd Chandler, 201 S. Walnut, Lenox, IA 50851.

GODDARD SEARCH

The Goddard Association of America is seeking all Goddards. A newsletter is published three or four times annually, and the Association now has 600 members. Cost of individual membership is $10.00 per year. Kathryn Goddard Meyer, Membership Secretary, 118 S. Volutsia, Wichita, Kansas 67211.

Births have brought us richness and variety,
And other births will bring us richness and variety.

I do not call one greater and one smaller,
That which fills its period and place is equal to any.

—Walt Whitman, *Leaves of Grass*

THE OXFORDS OF OXFORD BEND

by Betty Oxford Morrison

I wonder how many Washington County residents realize that Oxford Bend, Arkansas, has a sister site in North Carolina? In North Carolina it is known as the Oxford Ford Community and is located on the south side of the Catawba River in Catawba County. At this point, the Catawba River has been dammed up to create Oxford Dam and Lake Hickory, or Lake Oxford, as some call it.

As Oxford Ford, N. Carolina, was located at a heavily traveled route to the west, Samuel's (Samuel Oxford, d 1811 in N. Carolina) sons got caught up in the "western fever" and several migrated to different areas of the country spreading Oxfords over five different states.

The following are known to be children of Samuel and Barsheba Barett Oxford. They were not necessarily born in the sequence shown.

1. Barsheba - Married Jacob Byler.
2. Elizabeth - Married James Metcalf.
3. Nancy - Married A.D. Moody.
4. Samuel, Jr. - Records reflect he migrated to Kentucky (probably with Daniel Boone's group that left from nearby about the same time, ca 1785-1790). It is believed that some of his descendants later moved to Missouri and Texas.
5. William - Reported to have followed Samuel, Jr., to Kentucky and died there without a family.
6. Isaac - Reported to have gone to Kentucky also and died without a family.
7. James - Moved to what is now Caldwell County, North Carolina. He was born 3 May 1768 and died 11 Feb 1846. He was first married to Ailsey Robards and second to Hannah Barnes. He had children by both wives and his descendants became rather prominent in this area.
8. Jonathan - Born 6 Aug 1772; married Elizabeth White in March 1793, and moved to Georgia where his descendants live today.
9. John - Was reported to have gone to Ohio, but there is some evidence that he may have moved to Giles County, Tennessee, and later to Washington County, Arkansas Territory.
10. Jacob - Was reported to have moved to Missouri.
11. Abel - Born ca 1780 and died ca 1840-1850. He married a girl named Edieth on 25 Dec 1800, and moved to Buncombe County, North Carolina, then to Giles County, Tennessee, and finally about 1829, he moved his large family to Richland Township, Washington

County, Arkansas Territory.

Abel Oxford and his family were probably among the earliest settlers in the Richland area of Washington County, having moved to Arkansas Territory about 1828 or 1829. He is listed on the 1830 and 1840 census records. He also sat on some early Washington County Petit Juries.

Although the names of all of Abel and Edieth's children are not known, it is believed they had at least seven sons. The following are believed to be some of his children: Jacob (probably first child and born in North Carolina before the family moved to Tennessee, he may have had about 15 children); Claibourn (moved to Hopkins Co., Texas, between 1840-1845, had 8 children; Berry Hill (had about 6 children); Elizabeth (married John F. Barr); perhaps a Thomas ; and James M. (married Hetty and had 9 children.)

One of Abel's sons, James M., b. 25 Mar 1816 and d. 8 Oct 1882, and his wife, Hetty (Blackburn?) are the oldest recorded burials in Goshen Cemetery. The well-known Jacob Oxford, (many believe that Oxford Bend was named after him) is buried in Oxford Bend Cemetery, while his second wife, Rebecca, who died after him is buried next to James and Hetty in Goshen Cemetery. It is not known whether this Jacob is Abel's younger brother, Jacob, who was reported to have gone to Arkansas or Missouri, or Abel's oldest son, who was also named Jacob. Perhaps some one in Washington County can spread some light on this relationship. As far as Abel, it is not known where he is buried. But most likely, he died sometime between 1840 and 1850 and is one of the unmarked graves in Oxford Bend Cemetery.

During the Civil War, some of the younger Oxford boys fought for the CSA, but some of the family moved to Texas for the duration of the war (probably joined Claiborn who had moved there about 1840). Most returned at the close of the war.

As one can see, the Oxfords of Oxford Bend had many children, which has caused a lot of confusion in determining through research work whose children belonged to whom. There were so many cousins of the same age and name. William, Isaac, James, Jonathan, John, and Jacob were a perpetuation of the names of Old Samuel's sons.

The largest group of Oxfords in Oxford Bend was probably the family of Jacob Oxford (buried in Oxford Bend Cemetery). Perhaps someone in Washington County or one of his descendants can give an accounting of his line.

It, however, has been pretty well established that James & Hetty (in Goshen Cemetery) had the following nine children.

1. Nancy (Named after her Great Aunt, Abel's sister??)
2. Wilson m. Ellen Clark, had 2 sons, Bill & Clab (short for Claibourn?)

3. John Allen in CSA, married a girl named Sarah, moved to Indian Territory, and is buried near Lamar, Okla.
4. Jane m c/a Ben Johnson (?), died leaving three young sons.
5. Thompson reported to have married three times, once to Livony Vaughn, had several children. He remained in Washington County until 1926 when he moved to Pico, Calif. There are several accounts of Thompson in the Washington County Court Records.
6. Andrew J. "Jack" married twice. His first wife died leaving Mollie & Frank. Then he married Margaret Blankenship and had 4 or 5 more children.
7. Jacob married c/a Adelia Ballard (?)
8. Frank married c/a Sarah Ferrell (?). He died, leaving her with two children, which she moved with her to Texas or Louisiana.
9. James Madison, b. 3 May 1853, d. 1916. Married Prudence Elvia Doty (Doughty) and moved to Indian Territory. They had 14 children, 7 of which died as infants. James Madison is buried in an unmarked grave at Ti, Okla.

CEMETERY INFORMATION REQUESTED

WCHS is currently helping descendants of persons buried in Fayetteville's Walker Cemetery organize a trust to perpetually maintain the historic graveyard. If you are a descendant, or know the names and addresses of living descendants of someone buried in Walker Cemetery, please contact the WCHS office at 118 W. Dickson St., Fayetteville, AR 72701, Telephone 501-521-2970.

All anesthetics are dangerous; refuse to give them in trifling cases of minor surgery, or where a moment's fortitude on the part of the patient is all that is required. Such occasions do not justify the risk.

Book on the Physician Himself,
by D.W. Cathell, M.D., Philadelphia: F.A. Davis (1892)

County Records in Washington County, Arkansas - History and Preservation

by Nancy Crossfield*

In 1978, Arkansas' Washington County Quorum Court gave custody of nearly nine hundred volumes of early county records to the Washington County Historical Society with the understanding that the Society would preserve them and make them available to the public. Since January 1979, Society volunteers have been cleaning and organizing this neglected collection. A description of the records and their present treatment may be useful to those interested in Arkansas history and to those concerned with the preservation of historical materials.

The Records. Washington County was established in 1828, with Fayetteville as the county seat, so local county records provide nearly one hundred fifty years of data. The survival and continuity of these records is remarkable considering the rough frontier conditions of the early 1800's, the period of upheaval and depredations during the Civil War, and the more recent effects of years of unsatisfactory storage. That so many of these volumes have been preserved is surely a testimonial to the dedication of county workers and officials through the years.

Circuit and county clerks kept records for the various circuit, chancery, and county courts, including their associated fees and fines. Other Washington County volumes include land records, probate books, personal property assessment and tax ledgers, sheriff's records, warrants for county expenditures including teachers' salaries and Confederate pensions, marriage license books, road district registers, and miscellanea such as the 1921 membership and dues book of the local Anti Horse Thief Association. Early entries were handwritten. Ledgers from the 1800's and early 1900's were typically bound in red leather, but as time passed, volumes varied in size and style, and the collection now includes bindings of suede, canvas-covered leather, half leather (leather spines and corners on either corduroy or heavy white cloth), fabric, and imitation leather. While some ledgers began as prebound blank books, others were completed from separate pages later bound together or fastened with clamps or metal pins. One carton of loose papers was also discovered. The physical condition of the records will be described later, but in general reflected the history of the books themselves.

The first Washington County courthouse was erected in 1829, followed by others in 1837, 1868, and the present 1904 structure, but records were not necessarily kept in the courthouse. County officials often kept their papers in their private homes or offices, and it is suspected that some

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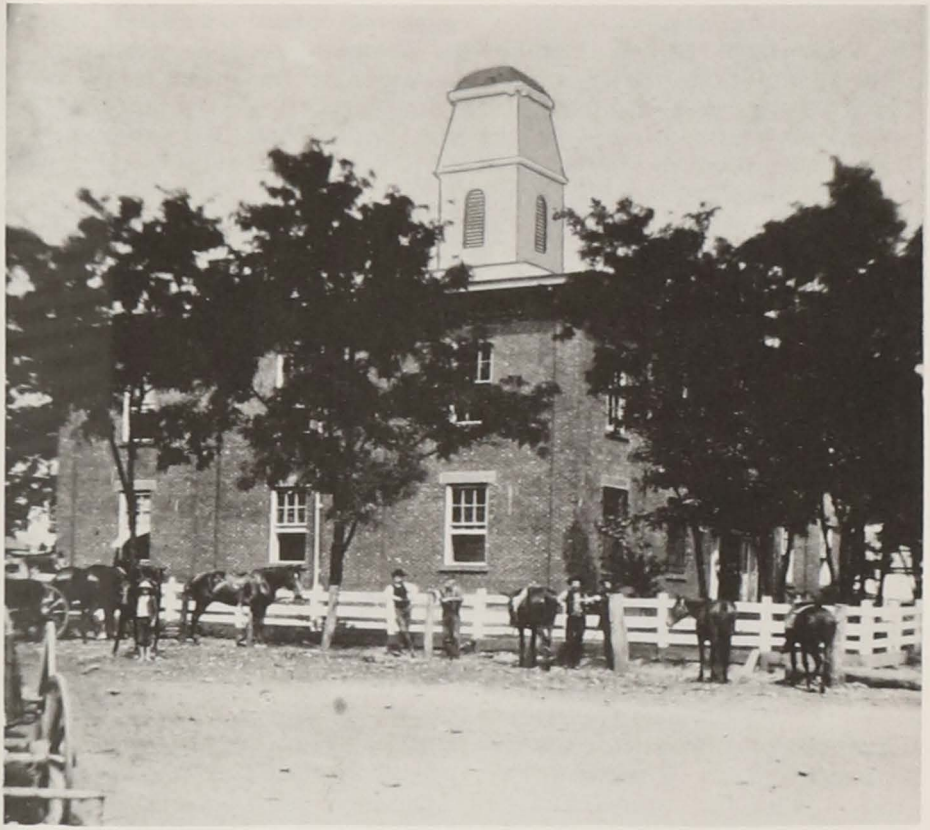


WASHINGTON COUNTY COURTHOUSE - Center of Square, Fayetteville, ca 1900.

records were lost when officials left the area, were voted out of office, or forgot to return them to the county. During the Civil War, local government activity was suspended for several years; county court records show a gap between the entries of January 17, 1862, and July 11, 1864. Presley R. Smith, the clerk at the time, is credited with hiding the county records in Fincher Cave, on the present Dora Dean farm south of Fayetteville, and may be responsible for saving them. In 1862, retreating Confederate forces burned businesses around the Fayetteville town square as well as "churches, schools, and all public buildings used in any way for war purposes."[1] County record keeping activities slowly resumed during Reconstruction.

The records had thus already experienced several moves before being transferred to the room-like vaults of the 1904 courthouse. In 1936, the Works Project Administration's Historical Records Survey of Washington County reported, "Records of the county were found in four vaults which

are fire-proof and well arranged. ...the general care of the records in all of the vaults, save the one known as the collector's vault, was excellent."[2] The County Collector's vault was a crowded hodge-podge of older records removed from other vaults for storage. The final report of the Historical Records Survey, unfortunately unpublished, lists and describes the records found by WPA workers in 1936, and mentions those lost, stolen, or destroyed by accident.

As offices and vaults became more crowded, older records were shifted again and again, with each move risking damage and loss of loose pages and documents. Mr. Lloyd McConnell, Sr., a former Circuit Clerk, remembered that some volumes were stored in the courthouse attic during the 1930's or 1940's until fear of fire caused them to be moved to the basement. After the courthouse furnace was switched from coal to gas, they were kept in the old coal-bin. Mr. McConnell and county prisoners moved the records into the neighboring Armory and cleaned them, but in the late 1950's, again due to pressure for space, the records were stored in the basement boiler room of the courthouse. A similar "out and back" move occurred in the 1960's, and records were shifted from place to place within the building during a 1967 renovation.[3]

In September 1974, the Arts and Monuments Team, 306th Civil Affairs Group, U.S. Army Reserve, Fayetteville, spent two weekends helping the county catalog the old records. Mr. Jerry Wade, then Captain and team chief, reported that the A&M Team, disbanded in 1978, found records "dumped" in a basement vault in the courthouse but in good condition except for dust. Team members physically removed the volumes from the vault, reorganized them, indexed them, and finally returned the to the basement.[4] Their index list of 783 books is valuable as both an inventory and a basis for future cataloging, and was apparently used during microfilming projects of the Arkansas History Commission and the Mormon church.

Finally, in September 1978, the Washington County Quorum Court transferred custody of all stored records to the Washington County Historical Society. The Society agreed to clean, repair, and organize the records, and eventually make them available in the Old Jail building, which the Quorum Court also turned over to the Society as a "Washington County Historical Organizational Services Building." The Old Jail is in downtown Fayetteville and is in the same block as the courthouse, so both county officials and the public will have easy access once the records project and the jail renovation project are completed.

The Preservation Project. Once responsibility for the documents had officially been transferred, the Society developed plans for their cleaning and preservation. Professional advice was needed, and fortunately Society member Margaret Hoffman, a curator and trained conservator with the University of Arkansas Museum, volunteered to survey the collection, organize the preservation project, and train all helpers. The former quarters of the County Law Library in the Courthouse Annex provided a

large, secure, two-room work area complete with book shelves, work stations, tables, and chairs, and in January 1979, county employees moved the old volumes from the courthouse basement into the annex work area. The same month, Society volunteers began meeting on Saturday mornings to start the cleaning and sorting process.

Although only about eight hundred fifty volumes awaited the preliminary work, they were a daunting sight. Ledgers of all kinds were stacked four feet high in two twelve-foot rows on the work-room floor. The books were unsorted, and most were thickly covered with dust. Many had been spotted with mildew or damaged by insects and rodents, some cloth bindings showed dirt and water stains, many older leather bindings were dry and cracking, and some books had come unbound. A large box held miscellaneous papers, pages, and bits of leather. Most volumes later proved to be more dirty than damaged, but their size and weight made handling difficult — a typical ledger measured 15x18x3 inches and weighed about twenty pounds.

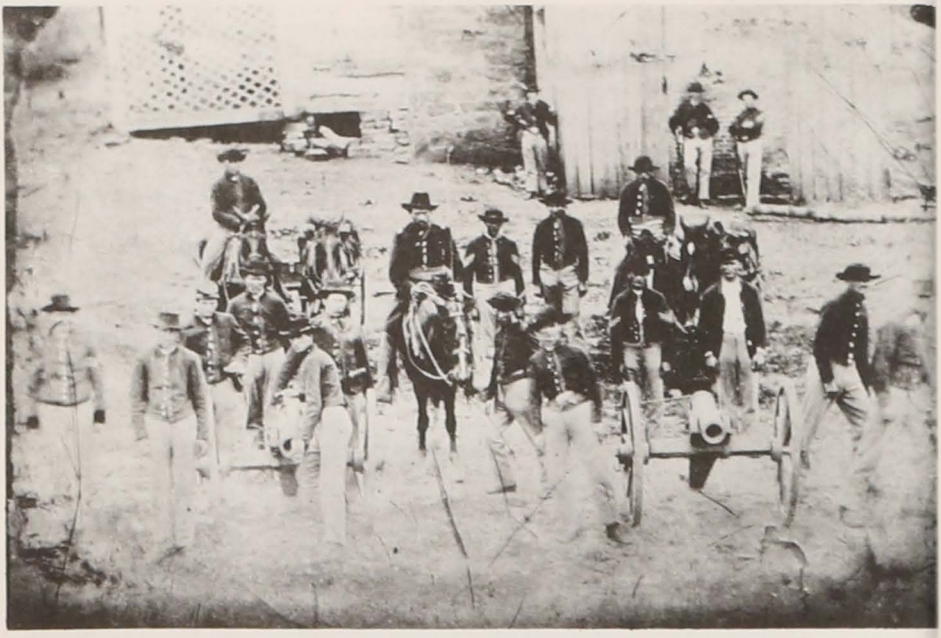
Each book had to be individually examined for condition of binding and paper, specific damage, and any special treatment that might be needed. This preliminary assessment was carried out under the supervision of the conservator and in conjunction with the cleaning process. Because the books were so grimy and because the jumbled stacks on the floor made a detailed survey difficult, it was decided to clean all covers thoroughly first and then sort the records onto shelves according to type and condition of binding. Volumes could later be handled more efficiently when grouped with others of like condition and could be checked later for internal damage without risk of smudging dirt on the pages.

During the first step in the treatment, teams of trained volunteers began by vacuuming the exterior covers and edges. Low-power vacuums equipped with soft brushes were used, the brushes covered with netting to prevent loose pieces from being sucked in. Other volunteers then carefully dusted each book using strips of sheeting lightly treated with a

(Cont. on p. 35)

When liniments are applied to the extremities for swellings, pains, etc., the popular notion is, that to rub outward, toward the fingers and toes, is the proper and only way to carry off the disease, while physiology tells us to aid the impeded circulation by rubbing toward the heart, a fact that it seems impossible to make people appreciate.

Book on the Physician Himself,
D.W. Cathell, M.D., Philadelphia: F.A. Davis (1892)

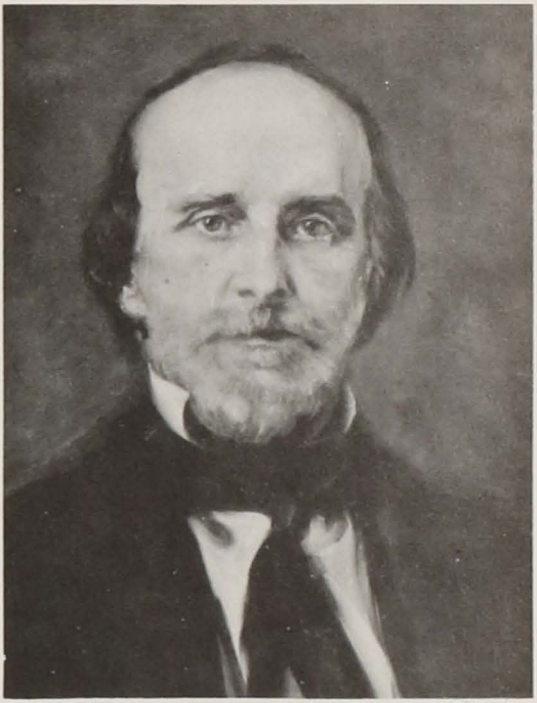


Union Battalion in Fayetteville, ca 1862 ▲
(see Library News & Notes)

Arcade Hotel - Springdale (no date) ◄

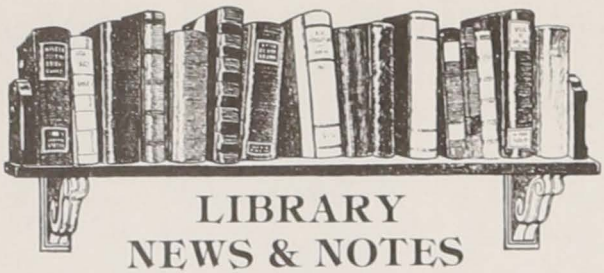
F. Cichelero, Shoemaker, with family or spectators. ►

The Dolly Sitton Bentley Photographic Collection



Issac Murphy, Governor of Arkansas, ca 1865 ▲
(see Library News & Notes)

tt & Jim Smith's Hardware Store -
coln, 1906. ▼



LIBRARY NEWS & NOTES

About one hundred books have been donated to the Society for the Book Sale during next year's Ice Cream Social. All books must be sorted (historically significant books go into WCHS's Library) and priced before the Book Sale, so anyone with books to donate is urged to do so as soon as possible to give the Library Committee plenty of time to process the donations.

Rex Alan Smith has given the society several copies of University of Arkansas directories from the 1930's and 1940's.

SILENT HATTIE SPEAKS, THE PERSONAL JOURNAL OF SENATOR HATTIE CARAWAY, Westport, Conn.: Greenwood Press (1979) is a gift from Bill Williams. This unique record of Arkansas' woman senator has been expertly edited by University of Arkansas Political Science Professor Diane Kincaid Blair, whose preface contains many interesting facts about Arkansas politics in the 1930's.

A volume that will be of great help to those interested in the Civil War, and that period of Washington County's social and economic history, is *STANDING IN THE FURNACE OF REBELLION: THE STORY OF THE FIRST ARKANSAS CAVALRY REGIMENT, USA.* Privately printed (1970). The author, Joe Fears, has gone beyond a trite, or prejudiced, or drum-beating military history. He tells us he wrote the book because he "wanted to see what these men were made of", set against the knowledge that what they did for three years, sometimes criminal - sometimes heroic - always human, helped shape the future of our country. Fears' research has come largely from military documents and he includes, in the appendix, the complete roster of the First Arkansas Cavalry, USA, as given in A.W. Bishop's *REPORT OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS FOR THE PERIOD OF THE LATE REBELLION AND TO NOVEMBER 1, 1866.* While the manuscript is fully cited with footnotes, there is no index. The one map is somewhat primitive in execution, but accurate. This a work of the heart, guided by the head, and enhanced by the ability to tell a good story.

Another good story is John I. Smith's biography of the post-Civil War overnor of Arkansas, Issac Murphy, *THE COURAGE OF A SOUTHERN INIONIST,* Little Rock, Arkansas: Rose (1979). Smith, who is well known n northwest Arkansas as a columnist and contributor to *FLASHBACK,* hows appropriate restraint in keeping the narrative involved with Murphy ost of the time. A long digression on carpetbaggers is an example of veakness in the book; perhaps Smith felt this was necessary. His portrait f Murphy is largely sympathetic, and the reader might require as much in- ormation as possible on carpetbaggers, the greatest thorn in Governor Murphy's political flesh.

Washington County history crops up often. Murphy's career began vith the beginnings of Fayetteville. He came here as an educator and ometime-lawyer in 1834. He was first elected to public office as Vashington County's representative to the Arkansas General Assembly in 846. Although he is popularly tied, today, with Governors Hill and Hunts- ille in Madison County, he should certainly be regarded, along with his ontemporaries David Walker and Bill Quesenbury, as one of ayetteville's most important early citizens.

Murphy's life was plagued with personal hardship and private loss, but s a public figure he was regarded as a man of constant integrity, kind- ess, and common sense. These qualities had to serve him in an era of ociety's hardship and loss. Perhaps in a small way he was comparable to incoln, whose national battles to hold the Union were not unlike Murphy's struggles in Civil War and post-Civil War Arkansas. Murphy has een viewed by some historians as a man too small for his times. Smith eminds us it took simple courage to cast the one dissenting vote against ecession in 1861, and courage to remain in office when the Reconstruc- ion government and the Republican General Assembly were smothering ll his efforts for conciliatory, civilian process in the return to national nification. This book should be a popular addition to our library.

SPECIAL PROJECT

WCHS has begun a new project: tape-recording *Flashback* for our Ozarks Regional Library's Talking Books Library. Ozarks Regional Library provides the tape cassettes; WCHS provides the labor. Anyone interested n participating in this project is encouraged to contact Nan Lawler at the Historical Society. The work involves preparation for taping, as well as the actual recording. (The Talking Books Library is a free service, under the Library of Congress, for "the blind and physically handicapped." Anyone with visual or physical impairments may apply for this service. Tape and record players, as well as a wide variety of Talking Books, are loaned to qualified users.)

OLD CIRCUIT COURT

by Lloyd McConnell

In November, 1889, O.W. Watson was elected by the attorneys as Special Circuit Judge while the regular Judge was disqualified on certain cases.

W.J. Patton, charged with obstructing a public road, asked for a change of venue to Benton County. The witnesses for each side were placed under a $200 bond for their appearance at that court. The witnesses were: William Eidson, J.E. Blakemore, B.F. Walker, W.B. Carr, S.P. Pittman, Cage Johnson, Jim Adams, George Chase, Andrew Cox, William M. Johnson, John Vernon, J.E. Suttle, S.L. Fleming and A.S. Gregg.

George Vaught was fined $50 by a jury, and on another charge was found not guilty. J.S. Guinn was foreman of the jury. Claude Drake received 12 months in prison, and Jerry Garnett was freed at trial. Serving on the Petit Jury were: W.H. Eidson, G.R. Broyles, J.W. Phipps, Zimri Vaughn, W.H. Irwin, T.P. Allison, W.M. Jackson, John Cate, Milas Cecil, J.K. Busy, John Barnett, and Frank Van Horn.

I.S. Jones got a year in the penitentiary, as did Lee Ives. A.L. Taylor was transferred to Benton County for trial. Frank Garrett sued L.A. Hobbs and Sterwin Wax, and received a judgement for $120 which was paid. J.M. Russell sued J.B. Griffith and received an $80 judgment. W.W. Bishop had a number of charges of selling liquor without a license. J.W. Gaylor was sued by the Springfield Grocer Company and the Sheriff sold Lot 2 in Block 38 of the Town of Salem Springs to satisfy the judgment. (Salem Springs in its hey-day had some 10 or 12 stores and shops, and was a thriving village.) The Court appointed J.B. Shannon, J.S. Guinn and C.R. Gilbreath to select a jury for the next term. They chose: Dave Masters, N.P. Scott, Hosea Benbrook, George F. Deane, Spate Spivey, John Walker, Henry Rieff, T.W. Frost, Bert Williams, James Bragg, James Shannon, Dick Harrison, W.C. Kuykendall, James Fincher, Sam Reed, Willie Hutchens, William Karnes, M.C. Napier, and Elijah Webb. Deane and Karnes were excused on account of serving as road overseer and school director.

The Petit Jury included: J.T. Taylor, Jeff Williams, J.H. Cooper, N.J. Tillman, Ed Combs, P.C. Fritts, William Mayes, G.W. Clark, Jarvis Reed, R.O. Hannah, James Carter, Frank Dill, Zadock Winn, John Pool, Jake Litterel, Ab Buchanan, George Morrow, Alvin Beaty, George Mateer, K.C. Cummings, Henry Guinn, White Hutchins, Tuck Smith, P.M. Gipson, J.W. Reed, George Mills, George Denton, Ty Epps and W.D. Aaron, of whom Williams, Mayes, Henry Guinn, White Hutchins and George Mills were excused because of duties as school director and road overseer. James Lusk and Sam Williams were added to the list.

H.S. Dunlap was under a $500 bond forfeiture, but the judgment was set aside, except the costs, when he appeared in court. W.J. Vine was given a penal sentence. O.A. Davis was licensed to practice law.

The Court adjourned until the Spring Term which met on April 28th, and Judge Pittman was again on the bench. I.G. Combs was the Sheriff.

The state held charges against George Quick and his bond was signed by J.W. Quick in the amount of $250. Small civil cases were called and settled by dismissal or by non-contested judgment on the first days of the term, clearing the docket for the more important cases and the always interesting criminal docket. P. Parker sued William Scudder to recover eight hogs, 2 yellow with black spots, 1 brown, 1 spotted, a sow and six black and white ones, marked with an under bit in the right ear and swallow fork in each ear. (That was the identification of hogs and cattle turned loose on the range when they could run free until fall when they were brought up and penned or sold, and were not branded.)

Then comes to mind the penalties inflicted on a miscreant in the early days of the country - the culprit was lashed or put in the stocks for a period of time. Later he was hired out by the Sheriff to some capable farmer to work or to work the roads, this resulted in a chain gang. Washington County had its own chain gang, and once or twice escaping prisoners were shot.

Many suits to recover judgments were filed by wholesale houses against merchants indicating that hard times were upon the country. A judgment for $19.40 was rendered by jury trial, and the defendant appealed the case. Dang the cost, he wanted justice.

Green Scott asked that his criminal charge be transferred to Benton County. William Jobe, Bob Nelson, Rub Carter and Jim Hodge paid $20 fines. James Curtis was discharged by the Court. Alfred Sheffield received a $50 fine, and W.W. Dickey made bond on several related charges. Green Scott was fined on another charge and if the $200 was not paid, he was to be farmed out to work the roads. Frank Rudolph was charged with assault to kill.

O.D. Hammond was elected as Special Judge, and several persons received small fines. They included Rubin Smith $20; C.M. Cottrell $5; Nelson Northan, Dave Barron, and Henry Dearing $10 each, Charles Karnes $20 and Robert Curtis $20. T.B. Alberty made $750 bond and later was found not guilty. James Smith was found insane by a jury and turned over to the Sheriff.

The Court called a Special Grand Jury to hear the case against S.T. Chambers for the killing of G.N. Brooks. The special panel included: Jerry Taylor, John Kinnebrough, J.M. Russell, M.B. Tharp, High King, John S. Campbell, J.T. Lane, Z.M. Pettigrew, Arkansas Wilson, J.T. Haris, J.M. Shackleford, W.R. Lanier, J.N. McCrary, A.B. Miller, G.C. Byrd and George Broyles. Chambers was indicted.

MARRIAGES IN 1886

by Lloyd McConnell

T.L. Steptoe, 23, of the Territory of Washington chose Miss Sina Warren, 17, of Prairie Grove, for his bride. The Rev. Samuel Cox, Presbyterian Minister officiated.

John D. Sanders, 17, and Miss Mary D. Lindley, 16, of Springdale area went to T.R. Ferguson for their July 4th wedding.

A Spring Valley couple, J.D. Savage, 35, and Mrs. M.E. Graham, 33, pledged their vows in the presence of Russell Weaver, a minister, on July 30th.

G.W. Scott, 21, and Miss Violine Howards, 17, of Lincoln, said their vows before Justice of the Peace Wm. A. Douthit on August 22nd.

December 28th was the date picked by A.C. Seale, Alma, Arkansas citizen, and Miss Lula Crider, West Fork area, ages 33 and 19. The Rev. J.S. Smith performed the wedding ceremony.

A Rheas Mill couple, J.W. Self, 26, and Miss Mary Hubbard, 19, went to Justice of the Peace J.C. Massie who signed their certificate of marriage on January 29th.

J.G. Sensibaugh, 24, and Miss N.M. Courtney, Winslow, age 50, were in a ceremony by Justice of the Peace, Massie, on April 22nd.

John W. Sigmon, age 21, and Miss M.M. Graham, 17, Springdale young people, were married on January 21 by W. Martin, a Justice of the Peace. (About 1976 the writer stood on a grassy knoll in the Hickory Creek area talking with an old gentleman named John Sigman. He pointed to a small brick restroom nearby and said that he was born right there where that restroom was. He was in his 80's.)

W. Simons, 25, and Miss Alice Raedels, age 19, of Springdale were wed by the Rev. James W. Scales on December 23rd, in time for Christmas.

J.M. Sisemore, 20 of Howe on the Illinois River, and Miss Wilmuth Cook, 18, of Wheeler, were married by Justice W.J. Hogg of Weddington on April 11th.

H.S. Skelton and Miss Darnie Reed, Hazel Valley, 18 year olds, went to Elder C. Fairchilds of that community who married them on June 27th.

Prairie Grove resident J.W. Skelton, 23, and Miss Martha Warren, 20, went to the Rev. Samuel Cox for an October 24th wedding ceremony.

Samuel L. Sloan and Miss Mary F. Batten, 21 and 19 years, of West Fork, were man and wife by the help of Rev. J.D. Woolsey on May 16th.

Justice of the Peace, W.J. Reed performed the ceremony uniting Winslow residents Hugh E. Smith and Miss B.A. Terry. Their date was Dec. 30th.

A Cincinnati couple, Jr.R. Smith, 26, and Miss Fannie Holt, 18, were in

the office of J.C. Massie for a January 5th wedding.

P.F. Smith, 32, and Miss Mollie Eads, 19, of Maguires Store area on Main Fork of White River were married by Justice T.J. Harmon on July 3th.

24 year old R.W. Smith and 16 year old Miss Eliza Moore, of the Brentwood area, were married April 18 with Justice D.E. Jackson doing the chores.

From West Fork came E.F. Stapleton, 27, and Miss Addie Baker, 16, who wanted the Rev. Marion N. West to read their ceremony. He did on the 3rd of October.

Bidville in Crawford furnished Isaac Stevens, 27, and Hazel Valley Miss Lavina Long, 24, who asked the J.P. in that area, H.C. Osburn, to unite them in wedlock. Their date was April 8th.

T.J. Stein, 38, and Miss S.M. Hand, 40, of Springdale, were married on January 10th, by J.T. Boyd who seldom noted his authority.

Crawford County sent another citizen, W.A. Sullivan, 22, and Miss Lydia A. Ridenaur, 18, of Frisco to Fayetteville to procure a license to marry. Joseph S. Lane, MG performed the ceremony. They had a nice Frisco railroad ride for a honeymoon.

G.S. Swift, 20, and Miss Lillie Combs, 15 year old Strickler maid, were married by Justice W.S. Bartholomew of that community. Their date was April 11th.

W.L. Tatum and Miss Susan Frazier, of Winslow, ages 22 and 19, were united in marriage on December 14th by the Rev. William P. Harrison.

Hugh Taylor, 22, and Miss Deliah Smith, 20, of Fayetteville, were taking vows on Oct. 3rd, in the presence of E. Roberts, a minister.

J.E. Taylor of West Fork, and Miss Annie Packer, 32 and 20 years, were married by the Rev. J.D. Woolsey on August 3rd.

W.N. Taylor, 48 of Pitkin (now Woolsey) and Mrs. Jane Conner, 50 years, of Frisco in Crawford County, went to L.A. Hobbs who was authorized to marry couples. Their date was November 28th.

J.W. Thomas and Miss M.E. Black, 22 and 18 years, Lincoln residents, were married by J.F. Reagan on July 23rd.

A Farmington couple, Josiah Thompson, 60 and 55 year old Mrs. Caroline Williams were joined in wedlock by Justice W.D. Parks of Summers, on January 30th.

Thomas W. Thurman, 23, of Fayetteville and Miss Seddie Shield, 21, of Cincinnati were married on May 27th by J.M. Thurman a minister.

W.F. Tilley, 26, and Miss Mary Blackburn, 19, of Viney Grove, were united by the Rev. J.A. Walden, in a January 28th ceremony.

J.S. Todd, 27, and Miss Mary Arnold, 21, took their vows before R.M. Hammons, a Justice of the Peace on September 12th.

(cont. from page 4)

Looney), Samuel (b 1799, m to Nancy Kyle), Fanny (b 24 Oct 1800, m to Loban Clark Howell), William (#8 above), Richard Mitchell (m to Martha Anderson), Mary Ingram (m to Pleasant Starnes), Wiley Blount (m to Elizabeth Brice), Matilda (m (1) to Geo. W. Kinehloe, m (2) to John Malone), Andrew Jackson (m to Ann Elizabeth Anderson), Lucinda (m to John Winston), Stokeley Donaldson Mitchell (m to Louisana Chenowith), and Czarine (m to Abiram Coldwell). Sold home in Hawkins Co. to Absalom Looney, came to AR 1835. Settled 3 mi. west of Farmington, owned 1190 acres.

18. John Starnes, b 1770 (or 1770-80), d Dec 1859.

19. Jane Adams.

24. Abraham Tipton, b 1780-82 VA, m 7 Feb 1814 Wash. Co. NC (or Carter Co. TN), d 1830 ?
25. Mary Boering (or Boring), b 1800 (census) MD; m (1) to Abraham Tipton, m (2) to Mark Morgan.
26. Burgess Witt, b 1765, m 28 Sept 1793 Monroe Co. TN, d 17 Dec 1843 Ironburg TN. Rev. War.
27. Mary Mayo, b 1759. Tradition d age 104.
28. Michael Orlando Ghormley, b 16 Mar 1794 Blount Co. TN, m 1812, d 17 Dec 1878 near Evansville AR. War of 1812.
29. Melinda Vaught, b 24 Apr 1824, d 8 Oct 1860.
30. Andrew Taylor.
31. Jane (or Jennie) Bigby, b 1804, d 27 Feb 1875 Stilwell, Indian Terr. (OK) at home of dau Minerva Walker, bur Stilwell OK (T.S.).

WCHS has not corrected, updated, nor verified
the compiler's information.

ELLIS - DEAVER TABLES

ELLIS FAMILY TABLE

Compiled by Miss Elizabeth Dupree Ellis

ELLIS
(line I)

(cont. on next page)

—I

1. Elizabeth Dupree Ellis, b Fayetteville AR.

   Siblings: Martha Belle Ellis, b 10 Feb 1903 Springdale AR, m 26 Dec 1926 Fayetteville AR to Reuben B. Hays (he b Beebe AR), d 26 May 1959 Cincinnati OH; Dr. Ruth Ellis, b Fayetteville AR, m 4 Sept 1936 to Dr. Vincent O. Lesh (he b East Bangor PA).

—II

2. Dr. Edward Forrest Ellis, b 19 Aug 1863 St. Clair Co. MO; m (1) 16 Feb 1888 to Mabel Amanda Stafford (she b 8 Feb 1862, d 30 June 1895), m (2) 4 Sept 1900 Fayetteville AR to Cener Boone Holcomb; d 7 Aug 1957 Fayetteville AR.

   Children by marriage to Mabel Amanda Stafford: Johnnie Forrest Ellis, b 26 June 1889, m 21 Nov 1912 Fayetteville AR to Herman Guy Gardner (he b 4 Jan 1886, d 20 Feb 1957), d 16 Oct 1976 Russellville AR; and Earl Ellis, b 25 June 1891, m 24 Jan 1917 to Florence Grabiel (she b 31 Aug 1895, d 11 Jan 1955), d 1 Feb 1926 Hot Springs AR.

3. Cener Boone Holcomb, b 9 May 1870 Springdale AR, d 9 Mar 1948 Fayetteville AR.

—III

4. Edward Silvanus Ellis, b 4 Feb 1837 Sumner Co. TN; m (1) 16 Feb 1862 Osceola MO to Martha Jane Stearns, m (2) 14 Sept 1881 to Frances (Fanny) L. Mullins (she d 19 Mar 1914); d 19 June 1899 Springdale AR.
5. Martha Jane Stearns, b 3 Jan 1845 Randolph Co. MO, d 15 Feb 1877 Washington Co. AR.
6. Joseph Holcomb, b 2 Nov 1825 Fulton Co. IL; m (1) 12 Dec 1860 to Cener Boone (she b 14 Mar 1839 Bedford Co. TN, d 11 June 1867 Mineral Springs AR), m (2) 20 May 1869 Hempstead Co. AR to Mrs. Sarah Isabella Smith Dupree; d 19 Aug 1904 Fayetteville AR.
7. Mrs. Sarah Isabella Smith Dupree, b 16 June 1844 Hempstead Co. AR, d 30 May 1898 Fayetteville AR.

—IV

8. _____ Ellis, m prob. 1829, d by 1850.
9. Margaret Hudson Ellis, b 20 Sept 1794; m (1) 14 Nov 1810 to Snelling Ellis (he b 1780-90 VA, prob. Culpeper Co., d prob. 1828), m (2) to _____ Ellis; d between 1851-53 Vernon (then Bates) Co. MO.
10. Stinson Sewell Stearns, b 25 Jan 1811 New Castle ME, m 6 Feb (one record says 30 Jan) 1842 Huntsville MO, d 14 Feb 1904 Springdale AR.
11 Minerva Reed, b 14 Feb 1822 Howard Co. MO, d 29 June 1896 near Fayetteville AR.

12. The Rev. John Holcombe, b 10 Dec 1797 SC, m 24 June 1823 Gibson Co. IN, d 9 Dec 1876 Springdale AR. Came to Washington Co. AR 1838 or 1839.
13. Dorothea Wilbanks, b 15 Jan 1808 KY, prob. Warren Co., d 18 Feb 1874 Springdale AR.
14. James W. Smith, b 19 Nov 1804, m 30 Dec 1830 Hempstead Co., AR, d 3 Feb 1871 Hempstead Co. AR. Came to AR from KY (prob. Fulton Co.) in 1818.
15. Alvacinda Reed, b 13 Jan 1811, d 19 Jan 1878 Springdale AR.

WCHS has not corrected, updated, nor verified
the compiler's information.

DEAVER FAMILY TABLE

—I

1. Dixie Dupree Deaver, b 15 Oct 1891.

—II

2. Jacob Pearson Deaver, b 25 Aug 1855, m 21 Oct 1885, d 25 Mar 1930.
3. Emma Brandon Drupree, b 1 Oct 1864, d 1 Jan 1927.

—III

4. William Silby or Shiply Deaver, b 14 Apr 1813; m (1) 21 Sept 1842 to Sarah M. Martin (she b 8 June 1823, d 9 Jan 1853), m (2) 19 Aug 1853; d 9 May 1876.
5. Sarah Eden Pearson, b 16 Feb 1817, d 27 May 1882.
6. Capt. Thomas C. Dupree, Jr., m 23 Dec 1863.
7. Isabella Smith, b 16 Jan 1844; m (1) to Capt. Thomas C. Dupree, Jr., m (2) 20 May 1869 to Joseph Holcomb (he b 2 Nov 1825, d 19 Aug 1904); d 30 May 1898.

—IV

8. Richard Deaver, b 23 Oct 1790, m 25 July 1811, d 7 Mar 1830.
9. Margaret Wilt, b 20 Mar 1794, d 27 Oct 1852.
10. Jacob Pearson, b 3 Dec 1779, m 1 Sept 1808, d 26 Feb 1868.
11. Lydia Gullett, b 1 May 1791 DE, d 23 Feb 1972.
12. Thomas Chapman Dupree , d between 1836 and 1848. Came from AL.
13. James W. Smith, b 19 Nov 1804, m 30 Dec 1830, d 3 Feb 1871.
15. Alvacinda Reed, b 13 Jan 1811, d 19 Jan 1878 Springdale AR.

WCHS has not corrected, updated, nor verified
the compiler's information.

WASSON FAMILY TABLE

Compiled by Field Wasson from *History of Benton, Washington, Carrol... Counties.* The Goodspeed Publishing Co., Chicago. 1889.

-I

1. Marion Wasson.

-II

2. William David Wasson, b 14 Feb 1850 Carrol (now Boone) Co. AR, m 1876. Entered mercantile business in Springton AR 1876.
3. Elizabeth Rebecca Steele, b Lawrence Co. AR.

-III

4. Abner W. Wasson, b 1820 TN; m (1) 1843 to Hannah Trotter (1st wife died 1872, after 11 children), m (2) 1873 to Miss Marinda Pearson. Moved to Washington Co. AR in 1843. In 1863 enlisted in Confederate Army, Brown's Company.

   Children: Artmissia E., Josiah H., William D., Alfred W., Dick P., James F., Rebecka (sic) I., John C., Abner G., Mary, and Sarah.

   Family legend states that Abner was a member of a wagon train which was destined for California. As the story goes, a friend's wagon broke down near the present location of Tontitown, AR, and in the accident, the friend's leg was broken. Abner remained behind to care for the friend, and decided to settle in Arkansas. For a number of years a well stood at the southwest corner of the intersections of Highways 112 and 68 (app. 1 mile east of Tontitown), and this was said to be the well of his homestead. The interesting part of the legend is the fate of the wagon train that went on. The story goes that this was the wagon train which was the victim of a massacre at Mount Meadow, in Utah. The Mount Meadow massacre was allegedly committed by Mormons dressed as Indians.

5. Hannah Trotter, b MO, d 1872.
6. Dr. Marion D. Steele, b 1824 Bedford Co. TN; m (1) 1849 to Francis S. Poer (died 1860, after 2 children), m (2) 1861 to Mrs. Mary E. Deaver, of Washington Co. (She had one son Deaver).
7. Francis S. Poer, d 1860.

-IV

8. Josiah Wasson, b NC.
9. Artimissia Bone.
0. David Trotter. Soldier in War of 1812, lived in New Madrid, MO, at the time of the famous earthquake.
2. Price C. Steele, d 1881.
3. Elizabeth B. Cooper.

WCHS has not corrected, updated, nor verified the compiler's information.

(cont. from p. 8)

County	Slave Deaths	Slave Population	Percent	Leading Causes
		1850		
Washington	4	1155	0.3	1 burn, 1 brain fever, 1 cold, 1 illegible.
Union	56	6331	1.2	worms among children, assorted fevers, dropsy, cholera, pneumonia
Chicot	101	3984	2.5	cholera, dropsy, assorted fevers, pneumonia
State	859	47100	1.8	cholera, fevers
		1860		
Washington	27	1468	1.8	typhoid, pneumonia, consumption
Union	140	6331	2.2	typhoid, pneumonia, scarlet fever
Chicot	276	7512	3.6	pneumonia, scarlet fever, assorted fevers, whooping cough

*No analysis of state has been made but slave deaths appear higher in all states. (32)

SLAVE TRADE AND REPRODUCTION

Perhaps the most dehumanizing aspect of slavery was the actual buying and selling. Slave traders were notoriously without qualms. Infants were taken from the arms of mothers, husbands split up from wives. Under such circumstances the slave was cruelly reminded of his status; a piece of property no more or less than a goat or a horse.

Here again, slaves in northwest Arkansas benefited greatly from their geographic location. While there were no laws prohibiting the establishment of permanent slave markets in Arkansas, none were established.[33] This fact had little influence on eastern and southern parts of Arkansas which had easy access to the slave trading centers of Natchez and New Orleans. However, for Washington County this meant reliance on immigration and localized slave trading.

Localized slave trading was, for the most part, a transaction between friends and relatives. As previously mentioned, the bestowing of slaves on sons or daughters as wedding gifts was the most common of such practices. In these transactions, as well as those among neighbors, slave families were less likely to be split up. A slave's relatives were rarely farther than the adjoining farm. The slave was thus less reminded of his status as property.

Examples of these intrafamily transactions dot the Washington County Miscellaneous Records. William Wallace sold to his brother a Negro "boy" named Nelson, "about 24 years of age," or James Hanis sold to his daughter "a Negro girl...of about 13...for one dollar."[34] Some were sold as a loan or to pay back a debt as with a Negro girl named Jane owned by

Ashley Aldridge.[35] Among the Miscellaneous Records there are but two recorded transactions of the purchase of slaves of non-residents: involving only a single slave in each case.[36]

Probably the only occasions on which slave trading resembled that of the lower south were at foreclosures (sheriff's sales) and probate proceedings. Here as many as 10 slaves might be sold to pay a man's debts.[37]

With slave trading so localized in Washington County, the fifteen fold increase in the slave population from 1829 to 1860 can only be attributed to other causes. Immigration was certainly a large part of it. The white population of Washington County increased by 50% in the 1850's alone.[38]

However, a survey of the census of 1850 suggests that another factor was at work in Washington County...reproduction. The Slave Schedules reveal that, in 1850, 16% of the total slave population, or 189 out of 1,155, were below three years of age.[39] Although some of these infants undoubtedly were immigrants themselves, the difficulty of travel to Washington County in the 1840's severely limits the number that can be accounted for in this manner. A survey of Union County, to which travel was much easier, shows that 13% of the total slave population, 636 out of 4,767, were below three years of age.[40] So reproduction was progressing in Washington County and possibly at a faster rate than southern Arkansas counties.[41]

POLITICS AND FREE MEN OF COLOR

The political climate of Washington County prior to the Civil War ranged from mildly reactionary, to Whig, to out and out Unionist. There was no domination by an aristocratic planter class as in southern Arkansas. This difference was already apparent in the territorial legislature of 1835-36 and the Constitutional Convention of 1836 when David Walker of Fayetteville led a coalition of northerners opposing the use of slave populations in legislative districting.[42]

Throughout the 1840's and 50's northwest Arkansas represented the voice of restraint on matters involving proslavery and abolitionist forces and provided the only forceful opposition to the state Democratic machine.[43] By the outbreak of hostilities local opinion was deeply divided. J. B. Scroggs writes that, "In Washington County, David Walker was unable immediately to ascertain the will of the people on the secession issue. On April 26," (1861), "he published an address asking for instructions from the citizens of the county concerning the course they wished to pursue. The people of West Fork township, on the following day, responded with resolutions opposing 'an ordinance of secession or any act of the convention that would unite us with the Southern Confederacy as it now exists.' The exact extent of this strong Union sentiment is uncertain, but even after secession had been accomplished, Fayetteville continued to demonstrate neutrality and even outspoken Federalist sympathies... the sparsely populated area subsequently furnished 11,137 Federal troops during the war."[44]

The existence of an element of "Union sentiment" in Washington County probably benefited slaves psychologically more than materially. The words of many of Washington County's citizens bespoke a more humane and dignified attitude towards slaves.

Elise Nuessle nee Herman in her "Childhood Memories of a German American Girl," wrote that, "Negroes brought over from Africa were used for heavy work out-of-doors because they could stand the heat better than the whites. These Negroes were bought and sold, their families torn apart, and they were driven with a whip to work in the cotton and cane-sugar fields. We had no such plantations in our area and my father fought with word and deed for the abolition of slavery."[45]

Many slave holders themselves were more Whig than Democrat. "John Latta of Vineyard township, Washington County, died a bachelor, September 23, 1834, in his forty-fourth year. He had imbibed many of the Henry Clay notions about slavery and was a great believer in the colonization of Negroes to Africa. Not to be inconsistent, he emancipated his slaves at his death, and not to be inhumane provided for them by a bequest of $2500 in gold in his will..."[46] Of former Washington County slaves interviewed in the 1930's none could remember ever being whipped and all were united in the belief that they themselves were well treated.[47]

Another gauge of racial attitudes, perhaps more revealing, was the position of free Negroes in Washington County. There had been free Negroes in Washington County as early as the Sheriff's Census of 1829.[48] By 1840 there were 10, and by 1850, 14, most of them residing in Fayetteville.[49] This despite an 1843 law which forbade free Negroes from entering the state and required those wishing to remain to post a $500 bond to insure their ability to pay for any injury or loss that they might cause.[50]

Another law enacted in 1859 demanded that all free men of color leave the state.[51] While this was rather laxly enforced, nowhere was it more ignored than in Washington County. The Census of 1860 shows that the county contained 47 or the state's remaining population of 144 free blacks.[52]

An entry from the Washington County Miscellaneous Records illustrates the idea that free Negroes were treated with some respect in Washington County. On September 23, 1834, Solomon and Edna Brown, who were having some probate problems, appointed Elizah Williams, "a free man of color...my true and lawful attorney."[53] It is unlikely that such an event could have taken place south of the Arkansas river.

Despite the prognosis of "better conditions" in Washington County, slavery was none-the-less slavery. Inherent in the institution were deprivations, beatings, helplessness, and despair. Probably the single most brutal case of slave beating ever recorded in Arkansas took place in Washington County. "Pyeatt v. Spencer, 4 Ark. 563, July 1842. 'Spencer... alleged that Pyeatt,... 1839,... for... $650... sold... to... Spencer,... Negro

woman,... and warranted her to be sound... the slave was not... but... mentally deranged, and that Pyeattt well knew her to be so,... The evidence... a few days after Spencer bought the slave, he was found whipping her. He had her stripped, and staked down on the ground; her feet and hands extended, and fastened to stakes; her face downwards. He appeared calm... (564) and was whipping her at intervals, using a cowhide, with a plaited buckskin lash about fifteen inches long. He asked her what made her do so (run away?), and she said that Bedford and Buchanan told her, that if she stayed there, she would be whipped to death... Spencer had drawn some blood, but not a great deal. He took salt and a cob, and salted her back."[54]

The fact remains however, that slaves worked under better conditions, were better fed, healthier, and were, perhaps, treated with more human dignity in Washington County than in the slave counties of southern Arkansas and the slave states of the lower south. Probably the same can be said for other northern counties and border states. What makes Washington County unique is that in terms of comparison with other northern Arkansas counties and border frontier counties, slavery grew rapidly in spite of the absence of a plantation system and in the presence of much agricultural diversification.

FOOTNOTES:

1. Washington County Arkansas Sheriff's Census for 1829.
2. Census of 1860 (Population).
3. Census of 1840, 1850, and 1860 (Population).
4. Ibid.
5. Ibid.
6. J.G. Pipkin, "Slavery in Arkansas," (M.A. thesis, University of Chicago, 1923), p. 53. Statistic for 1860 not available.
7. Census of 1850 (Agriculture).
8. Ibid.
9. Census of 1860 (Population).
10. George P. Rawlick, ed. *The American Slave: A Composite Autobiography, Arkansas Narratives,* vol. 5, (Westport: Greenwood Publishing Company, 1972), p. 316, Doc Flower's mother is a typical example.
11. Clyde W. Cathey, "Slavery in Arkansas," (M.A. thesis, University of Arkansas, 1936), p. 47.
12. Ibid., p. 36.
13. Census of 1840 and 1850 (Population).
14. Census of 1860 (Agriculture), Mark Bean owned a cotton gin and a mill and was a resident of Fayetteville.
15. Census of 1850 (Agriculture).
16. Census of 1860 (Agriculture), the clerk has noted that although there are 20,000 listed under bales of 400 pounds each, this number must reflect pounds as the county never produced more than its immediate needs.
17. Cathey, "Slavery in Arkansas," 34.
18. Slave occupations are seldom listed in the census or county records.

19. Census of 1860 (Population).
20. William S. Campbell, *One Hundred Years of Fayetteville 1828-1928,* (Fayetteville, 1928), p. 9, 11, 26, 38, 76.
21. Ibid., p. 19.
22. Ibid., p. 76, also Washington County Miscellaneous Records, 71, 88.
23. Washington County Miscellaneous Records, 2, 86, also see Rawlick, *Arkansas Narratives,* Aunt Adeline, p. 12.
24. Census of 1860 (Agriculture).
25. Orville W. Taylor, *Negro Slavery in Arkansas,* (Durham: Duke University Press, 1958), p. 137.
26. Census of 1850 (Agriculture).
27. Taylor, *Negro Slavery in Arkansas,* 138.
28. Rawlick, *Arkansas Narratives,* Aunt Adeline, 14.
29. Ibid., Doc Flowers, 317.
30. Taylor, *Negro Slavery in Arkansas,* 156.
31. Census of 1850, 1860 (Morbidity).
32. Taylor, *Negro Slavery in Arkansas,* 159.
33. Ibid., 61.
34. Washington County Miscellaneous Records, 24, 86, 87.
35. Ibid., 21.
36. Ibid., 1, 75.
37. *The Arkansian,* (Fayetteville, April 23, 1859, 3, col. 6.
38. Census of 1850, 1860 (Population).
39. Ibid.
40. Ibid.
41. "probably" is used because the statistics can be accounted for in a number of equally plausible ways.
42. Taylor, *Negro Slavery in Arkansas,* 40, 41.
43. Jack B. Scroggs, "Arkansas in the Secessionist Movement," (M.A. thesis, University of Arkansas, 1948), p. 8.
44. Ibid., 115.
45. Elise Nuessle nee Herman, "Childhood Memories of a German American Girl," *Flashback,* vol. 10, No. 2 (April, 1960); 29.
46. Taylor, *Negro Slavery in Arkansas,* 239.
47. Rawlick, *Arkansas Narratives,* Doc Flowers, 315, Aunt Susie King, 210, Seabe Tuttle, 369, among others.
48. Washington County Arkansas Sheriff's Census for 1829.
49. Census of 1840, 1850 (Population).
50. Cathey, "Slavery in Arkansas," 57, an example of such bonds appears in the Washington County Miscellaneous Records, 49.
51. Ibid.
52. Census of 1860 (Population).
53. Washington County Miscellaneous Records, 161.
54. H.T. Catterall, ed. *Judicial Cases Concerning American Slavery and the Negro,* vol. 5, (Washington: Carnegie Institute, 1937), p. 229.

commercial dusting spray. Covers and spine were cleaned first, then paper edges. Books were held tipped forward so that the light dusting motions would brush particles onto the floor rather than force them between pages. Fragile index tabs were cleaned individually. Any loose tabs, pages, papers, or binding fragments were put in small envelopes and labelled with the title and year of the volumes to which they belonged. Seriously damaged ledgers such as those with detached covers and spines, or those needing fumigation were either bandaged with strips of sheeting or wrapped in newsprint and placed with others needing special repairs. Volumes in good condition were sorted by type of binding, which not only grouped volumes needing similar follow-up treatments, but also was discovered to roughly group similar types of records.

Teams of six to eight volunteers spent six Saturday mornings completing this first phase. Once general procedures were well-established, over one hundred volumes were cleaned per session. At the end of each morning, the entire work area was cleaned. All tables and shelves were brushed and dusted, floors vacuumed, and used dustcloths taken home for washing.

The second phase of the preservation project was to clean the volumes more thoroughly, removing all lingering abrasive or acidic particles and traces of mildew. Leather-bound ledgers were treated first. Approximately two tablespoons of saddle soap and a half cup of water were blended in a mixing bowl, after which about another cup of water was added. The mixture was then whipped to a froth with a small electric mixer, and smaller bowls of froth were then distributed to the work station. To wash the leather using as little moisture as possible, workers applied foam to the bindings with the squares of sheeting, gently rubbing off stains and dirt and working from one corner across the covers and spine. The narrow leather edges inside the covers were then wiped, then any protruding tabs. A clean, slightly dampened sponge removed soap residue before the volumes were spaced on shelves to dry. Six volunteers spent three mornings on this phase and washed about two hundred books.

A similar process was followed to clean half-leather bindings, adding the step of gently rubbing the cloth portion of the covers with opaline cleansing pads. Full cloth bindings were also cleaned at this point, and imitation leather covers were either washed or rubbed, depending on their condition. Cleaning the cloth bindings proved very time-consuming; one leather-washer could easily keep up with three or four cloth-rubbers. The opaline pads were effective but messy, and each worker used up a pad or two a day. About four volunteers spent eight mornings on this task.

On June 9, 1979, work entered the next stage. To avoid excessive book handling, two steps were combined — oiling the leather and filling out worksheets. Peggy Hoffman, our conservator, prepared a leather dressing of 60% neatsfoot oil, 40% lanolin, and a trace of cedarwood oil (a mild fungicide) to lubricate dry leather and reduce cracking. She then trained volunteers to apply the dressing carefully by hand and to stand the books upright on newsprint to dry.

Filling out the worksheets took about 15 to 20 minutes per books, but was a fascinating job. Working from outside to inside, volunteers first noted the type, size, condition, and previous treatments of the exterior binding. Then the interiors were described: title of volume, office or official responsible, dates covered, indexes, contents, and general condition. The "contents" section was often quite detailed, especially when a volume contained more than one subject or covered more than one year. Experience showed that this description could be standardized and entered quickly when volumes of the same type were done consecutively. The wealth of information in these books was amazing — auto license records listed makes and numbers of cars and trucks registered in the early 1900's, chattel mortgages described (by name!) mules and horses put up as security for loans, a complete drugstore inventory listed types and prices of medicines on hand, and verbatim transcripts of grand jury testimony (complete from 1902-1948) gave insights into past problems and lives. After the contents were described on the worksheets, any loose bills, receipts, or letters were also noted. Metal paperclips and staples were replaced by flatter plastic clips.

In April, 1979, another thirty to fifty dust-covered volumes of records were found in a basement storeroom at the courthouse and are also being preserved. These include formerly lost marriage records from 1889-1892, and 3 volumes of appraisers records listed domestic, agricultural, and personal property from neat-footed cattle to pianofortes.

Three things seem to be needed to make a documents preservation project like this one successful: an adequate work area, dedicated volunteers, and, most important, the advice of a trained conservator who can identify problems, suggest proper treatments and repairs, train workers, and advise ways to provide future storage and prevent further deterioration. Preservation experts may often be contacted through state or local archives, libraries, museums, and larger historical societies.

As Washington County's project has shown, much can be accomplished at very little cost. A few of the resurrected volumes will be returned to the County Clerk's office as soon as possible. The rest of the collection, cataloged according to subject and date, will be moved to the Old Jail building and made accessible to potential users, possibly by late spring, 1980.

Footnotes

1. Campbell, William S., *One Hundred Years of Fayetteville, 1828-1928.* Reprint of 1928 edition. Fayetteville, Washington County Historical Society, 1977, p. 48.
2. Historical Records Survey. Arkansas. Records inventory files, 1936-1942. Box 249, G.A. 72. B. F. 1., *History of the Washington County Survey, by Field Workers, Nov. 9, 1936,* Manuscripts in Special Collections, University of Arkansas Library, Fayetteville. (Editor's note: Copies are also available at the WCHS office, Fayetteville.)
3. McConnell, Lloyd A., Sr., *Personal Conversation,* February 12, 1979. Fayetteville.
4. Wade, Jerry. *Personal Conversation,* March 13, 1979. Little Rock, Arkansas.

"Come on, Darling — join the crowd... Send in your membership renewal to the Washington County Historical Society."

Haskell House, built in 1901. Presently the home of Gurdon & Dorothy Nichols.